but possession unquestioned for a long series of years is evidence of title. If the village community are idle and allow private rights to spring up in the common property, they as a body naturally suffer inconvenience in consequence and the Government cannot help them.

Subject No. 22.
Importation of agricultural laborers.

Summary of discussion.—As regards taking up banjar lands in populated and depopulated villages although the raiyats of one village lead a difficult life for want of sufficient lands for cultivation, they seldom emigrate to another village and take up lands there available. If the Government therefore undertake to send for men from the North Arcot and other Districts and encourage them to take up lands for cultivation, both the Government and the public would be benefitted. In some parts of Mysore the extent of land is small, but the population is large; and in other parts the case is just the reverse, some landholders pay banjar kandayam for several years in the hope of getting men to cultivate the same. An officer should be deputed by Government to fetch raiyats as above and experimentally locate them in the Kadur and Arsikere Taluks.

Dewan's reply.—Government must do nothing in this matter. The evil complained of is far from general and is probably confined to small areas of the Taluks named. The Railway through these Taluks will soon make a difference. It is for private enterprise to offer the necessary inducements for the importation of agricultural labor where necessary.

Subject No. 23.
Free licenses for date leaves.

Summary of discussion.—Agriculturists requiring date leaves for their own *bonâ fide* use are required to take out licenses for cutting the date leaves. This entails considerable inconvenience and hardship and risks of penalty for infringement of the conditions of the license. The system should be abolished and raiyats allowed to take the leaves without a license.

Note.—This subject was also brought forward by Mr. Basappa (Representative from Hiriyur Taluk, Chitaldroog District) who suggested that Patels may be empowered to grant the licenses as it is inconvenient to go to the Amildar for the purpose.

Dewan's reply.—The present rules are very liberal. Before they were enacted, raiyats had to pay for date leaves to the Toddy Contractor any price which he thought fit to ask. Now they have only to take out a license which is granted free of charge. It is not every Patel that can be entrusted with the power of granting these licenses. But Deputy Commissioners have been allowed discretion to authorize such subordinates, as they may consider fit, to issue them. It is